memo

M/Sailer Viajero

Journal:

Humpback Whale/
Whaling History
Course
(U. of California
Berkeley Extension)

LAHAINA, MAUI, HAWAII

1 - 8 March 1977

Kenneth W. Adams

(442)

Register No.

Journal :

Humphreys Woods
Working History
Course
U. S. Calisthenics
Berkeley Lyceum

Course, Mass. Hygiene.

1 - 8 Mass. [illegible]

Course Mass. Calisthenics

1 March 1977 - Arrived at Kahului, Maui: weather fine with intense N.E. trades. Landed about 2:30PM, proceeded by bus to Lahaina & got settled into the Pioneer Inn.

I am rooming with Ronn Storro-Patterson, who organized and is co-teaching the course. The third instructor is William Cummings, an

[illegible] April
[illegible] Music:
weather fine early.
Intens. N.E. trades.
Sunset about 7:30 PM
proceeded by boat to
[illegible] & got water
[illegible] the Pinaco Isles.
[illegible] running with
[illegible] Stone. Pelleas.
[illegible] appeared and
[illegible] Teaching the
[illegible] The Theory of
[illegible] is Willem
[illegible]

acoustical biologist from the Naval Undersea Center, San Diego. Cummings is Steve Leatherwood's boss + is standing in for S. L. Cummings appears in the Time-Life film After the Whale, commenting upon audio transmission in whales.

The theater and store building of the Lahaina Restoration Foundation burned last week. We must hold our lectures in the

courtyard of the Pioneer Inn or the Lahaina Library. Both spots have ambient noise but will make do.

Evening - Introductory remarks. Most students are diffident ~~[illegible]~~ conservationists although 2 or 3 of the 27 expressed special interest in history. (3/2: No one seems interested in doing a historical project, tho.) Cummings gave a good introduction which emphasized projects and sensible onboard attitudes. It is important to C. to have organization.

(3/1+2

My lecture
dealt with Anglo-Dutch
whaling, Yankee whaling,
the spread of these fisheries
to remote whaling grounds
and the whys & wherefores
of Lahaina's key role.
Not much specific detail
but many resultant
questions. (was very sat-
isfied. this may
be the best grade yet.
Got to bed by 10:30 PM.

2 March 1977 Maui is
jumping with whale people.
There are 3 or maybe 4
film projects here right
now, 2 for upcoming

3/2/71

3/2

TV specials; one is Lee Tepley's. Tepley walked into the Pioneer breakfast room. Roger Payne will arrive next week, a huge 3-masted motor sailer in St Croix with the Rockefeller awaiting his arrival. Joan McIntyre is on Lanai, etc. etc.

Chuck Sutherland, proprietor of The Whaler shop on Front Street has invited all of these types, plus local & non-local ACS types, plus our class, to a dinner on Thursday, 3/3. It should be interesting.

At 9:00 AM, Jim Luckey, manager of the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, leads us on a walking

tour of Lahaina, which was terrific. We hit the Old Jail (mid XIX century), the royal graveyard, the Baldwin house (1834), the captains' reading room, etc. Luckey supplied a thorough general view of Lahaina's geology, meteorology, history and commerce. People were unusually interested. In the afternoon I complemented this with a lecture on Lahaina during the whaling boom, using quotations from whaling journals + XIX c. publications (John Cleland, John Martin, Gilbert

Pendleton, etc.) and
Bennett & George Colburn
in print. Speaking of this;
I had a chance to read
parts of George Robinson's
ms. "A Voice from the
Sandwich Islands," which
I turned up at the Kendall
Whaling Museum 3 weeks
ago. This document is an
anti-Missionary polemic
of striking frankness, was
written while Robinson,
a whaleman, was incar-
cerated at the Maui
Fortress in 1841. I read
part of it while we stood
in the prison yard this
morning. This was not the

manner in which Robinson ~~spent his~~ did time for desertion, but the locale seemed to call for acknowledging his effort. Robinson's anti-establishment descriptions were received by the class with interest, following their tour of the missionary home.

Evening commenced with a long introductory lecture by Bill Cummings: taxonomy, descriptions, etc., w/ special reference to humpback whales.

MIGRATION CYCLE of S. HOMB. 3/2

Lactating cows w/ newborn calves leave the breeding area last, but are among the 1st to leave the feeding grounds, cold water i.e., they spend a shorter time on the feeding grounds than pregnant females.

Newly impregnated cows leave warm waters first & are last to leave the cold water feeding grounds.

Southern humpbacks feed mostly on krill

~~[illegible]~~

N humpbacks include small fishes in diet: smelt, herring, small cod & salmon; & crustacean krill.

3/2

Stomach Contents

based on Russian study of N Pacific humpbacks:

Nothing but fish : 48.2%

Nothing but bottom crustacea 9.6

Fish + bottom crustacea : 10.6%

Nothing but krill : 2.1%

Behavior

Maximum recorded speed : 16 knots under harpoon stress. Far above operational maximum.

Maximum dive : 30 minutes, again under pressure. Usual duration is several minutes.

almost no feeding on the breeding grounds.

Sex + Reproduction:

9 - 10% more females than males in both hemispheres. Females are larger. Sexual maturity: ♂ - 37 ft, ♀ - 39 ft
1 calf per 2-year. Occasionally twins; 1 in 200.
gestation is 11 - 11.5 months, typical of large cetaceans.
Size @ birth - 14 to 15 feet.
Calves double size in 5 months.
Whole milk - 39% fat
47% water
14% residue; but no sugar

Evening ended w/a quick talk by me w/slides on Yankee whaling technology

3/3

7:00
Breakfast w/ R S Patterson, Jim Hudnall, Lee Tepley and groupies. The general topic of conversation at most tables has to do w/ the whale scene + exploitation: are all these conservers, rubberneckers, whalewatchers, etc. harassing the whales?! Whoever is talking thinks maybe others are but he is not. Also: what is harassment. It sounds as tho NMFS and Coast Guard is watching all this stuff closely, apparently in an effort to reduce the numbers of joyriders, etc. Film crews come out here like VIPs, latch onto the guys who've been doing this awhile, like Hudnall, then co-opt + film those operations. By doing this, the mass media types help finance the serious on-going

researchers, altho they 3/3
attempt, when filming, to arrange
the field work cinematically.
Title follows art. Is this documentary?

ABOARD M/S VIAJERO

8:20 steamed east of Lahaina in calm swells. Occasional sightings from 100yds to several miles in all directions. C put over hydrophones w/a broadcast speaker, picking up a single whale song. The sound played to the entire company. Other whales faintly in the distance. The wind picked up toward midday. People started dropping like flies: seasickness. Sightings remained distant + stopped almost altogether. Saw one group of bottlenose dolphins in the channel. Returned in fine weather about 3 PM.

3:30 - Meeting in courtyard: Cummings' bioacoustical project group got a lecture on hydrophonic acoustics.

13/3

Sound loss over distances: dissipation due to spreading (20 log R), + loss because of height of frequency scattering increases w/ frequency height. Also, conversion to heat + loss, + signal/noise ratio.

Echolocation? There is no evidence that baleen whales echolocate. All toothed whales probably do.

Comms? In ideal conditions perhaps up to 1000 miles.

How many? Between 3 + 5 thousand
1200 in N. Pac
1000 in N. Atlantic
3000 in S. Hemisphere

EVENING - Big spaghetti party at Chuck Sutherland's, including all visiting film crews, Bern DeBus of ACS, Jim Lukens etc. Good food, house jammed. Broke up about 9:00.

3/4

Out at 8:15 AM. Steered into mid-channel and later along Lanai Coast to White Manele Harbor. Almost everyone snorkeled. Prior to this, we clocked the breathing time and sound for a pod of 4 humpbacks (1 calf).

Afternoon got windy and very rough for the return trip. Saw few whales.

The big word used this year is 'super.' The main activity is wearing T-shirts with macho or tropical/nautical motifs.

[illegible]

3/5

Out at 8:15 in calm
seas that became choppy
in light winds off Marin in
midday. Headed along the laward
coast and timed a group of
3 (one calf). These swam in
circles around the drifting Viajero,
and once or twice the surfaced
very close. The winds became
strong, a steady 30 mph gusting
to 50 as winds broke through
the valleys to the laward side.
Viajero sailed smartly
through all this. Returned
about 4:00 PM since high
wind prevented whale sighting.

Evening - Jim Hudnall showed
remarkable underwater shots
of humpbacks, as well as

3/5

about 15 minutes of film footage. I lectured on life aboard U.S. whalers.

Before dinner Beni di Bus of American Cetacean Society bought Ross, Captain Thumper (Viajero) and me bourbon at the Pioneer's grog shop. She seemed interested in reporting my article on whale attacks. But prior to this she'd mixed me up with Ken Balcomb so it's hard to judge. Beni is very sharp, vital and theatrical, as I noticed during the Bergen FAO conference.

Tomorrow we stay ashore.

3/6

A delightful day. Morning spent at the Whaler's Village museum which is integral to and icing for the Kaanapali shopping complex. All the exhibits are outdoors. These range from a sperm whale skeleton hung over a reflecting pool to an Azorean whale-boat, and include lots of whaling gear. The idea of all this as a motif for a bunch of posh shops sounds tacky but in fact works remarkably well. Glass cases house ceramic models of cetaceans. Tile murals & considerable arty style decorate walls.

3/6

At noon had lunch with Chuck + Connie Sutherland of The Whaler. Very interesting. Dined at the Kaanapali Beach Club + learned much about Lahaina's possibilities as a historic restoration site. The problem is the lack of historical knowledge within the Lahaina Restoration Foundation, which is inevitably linked with business promotion. Also: very little is known hereabouts about the early details of Lahaina — all the pertinent information is in places like New England Museums. But

the main problem
is a lack of steady
funding. The next project
will be the restoration
of the gutted but still standing
Seamens' Hospital, built of
coral stone in the 1840s.
There is so much that could
be done with this place,
given money (which should
not be too hard to come
by) and talent. Lahaina
is as good as it is and
as untapped as it is be-
cause of its remoteness.
This is the middle of
nowhere.

Another wonderful spot

that's underdeveloped historically in Lahaina proper. Hale Pai, built in 1836, which adjoins Lahainaluna High School overlooking the town. The place is in poor condition but has a reproduction press installed. The stone/stucco building is in a lush setting ~~with~~ adjacent to stone terracing and a small canal. This place needs help.

3/6

Clark Sutherland drove Ronn and me to the windward side, where we visited with Sam Kaai, a part Hawaiian with a substantial knowledge of Polynesian history. He held forth at length on Lahaina

3/6

before the whaling era. Kaiai runs a polynesiana shop at Kaanapali + affirms that remnants of a shoreside tryworks were discovered there during resort constructn. He says also that whaling was done elsewhere on Maui. Humpbacks or sperm? Difficult to say. Both species were known to the Islanders. Kaai lives in a spectacular house built on stone terraces on a cliffside, at the mouth of a gorge which opens onto a beach cove. The house

of wood, suggests Polynesian architecture tho it is of wood with long eaves, lanais and glass walls. Inside is his collection of polynesian artifacts. He like Sutherland had a lot to do with the recent voyage of a sea-going canoe from Hawaii to Tahiti. Kaai performed a blessing ritual on that vessel, and met her upon her arrival in Tahiti.

Off duty tonight. Listened to a fifteen + tape of whale songs w/ sonograms by Bill Cummings. Sara Kaai + family attended

3/6

the meeting. K fascinated the students, ~~[illegible]~~ and came down heavily upon the monied economics of resource extraction for profit, citing whaling and tourism by Haoles in Hawaii. Efforts to get an organized discussion going on modern whaling + its consequences were only partly successful. People are saturated by the intensiveness of this course. Tomorrow is the last day to observe whales!

3/7

Viajero left about 8:15 AM. for what proved to be a good day in the channel. Sam Kaai showed up in a Polynesian slicker made of grass, a huge, bulky cape that made him resemble the world's largest kiwi. Fine weather but stiff trade winds blowing through the mountain passes. Cymbre Ferguson, manager of Whalers' Village, was also aboard. We stayed with a group of 3 humpbacks about 2 miles off Kaanapali. One breeched spectacularly a very short distance

from the bow; then repeated it 2 more times for photography. The animal spun laterally as it breached almost fully out of the water, clockwise, flippers flailing as it did so. What a sight! This spectacle satisfied everyone who might have had doubts about how good the whale watching was.

Shortly after this, a Boston Whaler with two Coast Guardsmen in it zoomed up out of nowhere & came alongside. One CG man said they'd received a

complaint that
Viajero was harassing
whales & causing them
to change course. This
was denied, of course,
the CG implied there would
be an inquiry when we
docked, but nothing further
happened. Everyone aboard
was incredulous and
insulted, especially Bill
Cummings, who said we'd
not gotten anywhere
near 50 yds from a
whale. I disagree with this,
but we have been most
scrupulous in leaving the
animals alone. The film

crews may have been otherwise: how else are they to get closeups?

In the late afternoon, returned to Lahaina. Students organized their data for presentation. The bioacoustical group got fine recordings and a lot of input from Cummings. The group measuring breathing rhythms had lengthy discussions with a steady stream of information, tho I'm not sure what value that exercise has except as a field practice exercise.

The group observing for individual recognition had the hardest time since we were seldom very close to whales. And when they turned flukes we were likewise in the wrong spot (usually) to observe color patches, the most distinctive individual characteristic. This has been a very industrious, serious group.

Evening: A final dinner together, at Longhis on Front Street. Much good times & good food. The restaurant was selected by a self-appointed organizer

3/4

in the group who was dissatisfied with Ross's choice of a restaurant. During the meal I was called out to compare notes with Ed Shallenberger (director of Sea Life Park) + Roy Nickerson (author of the brand new, elementary Brother Whale) on whether or not humpbacks used to be hereabouts. Later I met Prof. Lou Herman of the University of Hawaii, who has done the most research on

this. Homan is sure 3/7
that by the 1860s
the whales were here;
there were 3 shore
whaleries on Maui. One
some distance east of
town. Who knows?

People were stunned
upon finishing the meal,
to learn the ~~tag~~ tab
was $24.- a person!
Sort of a bumper or a
good farewell evening.

3/8

I was responsible for herding the students from Lahaina to Kahului to Honolulu to Sea Life Park to the airport. This all took place w/o incident.

At Sea Life Park we were shown the holding-training tanks for marine mammals — bottlenose, spinners, a new pseudorca, sea lions, etc. Ingrid Kang made a very brief appearance. We also got a backstage look at a sea turtle.

hatchery. Took in 3/8
the reef tanks and
the dolphin show +
piled on the bus for the
airport. People all seemed
relaxed — tired actually,
me too — and more than
willing to kiss off
whales + whaling for
awhile. Thank god I
have a few days'
vacation to forget
the subject. What awaits
in Sharon?!

Got aboard a
Western AL 707 at
3:30 for an uneventful
flight home. Arrived

SHAW-KERNER
Hallmark Stores
$1.50 EACH

Bought at Hallmark, Ghirardelli Square, San Francisco, 2/27/77